

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS****[OMB Control No. 2900–0697]****Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Application for Approval of a Licensing or Certification Test and Organization or Entity****AGENCY:** Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0697.”

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Maribel Aponte, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics (008), 1717 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20006, (202) 266–4688 or email [maribel.aponte@va.gov](mailto:maribel.aponte@va.gov). Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0697” in any correspondence.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:***Authority:* 38 U.S.C. 3689.*Title:* Application for Approval of a Licensing or Certification Test and Organization or Entity.*OMB Control Number:* 2900–0697.*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved collection.*Abstract:* SAAs and VA will use the information to decide whether the licensing and certification tests, and the organizations offering them, should be approved for use under the education programs VA administers.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period

soliciting comments on this collection of information was published at 86 FR 9546 on May 6, 2021, page 24440.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or Households.*Estimated Annual Burden:* 1,713 hours.*Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:* 3 hours.*Frequency of Response:* Annually.*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 571.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Maribel Aponte,**

*VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2021–15169 Filed 7–15–21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320–01–P****DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS****[OMB Control No. 2900–0469]****Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: Certificate Showing Residence and Heirs of Deceased Veterans or Beneficiary****AGENCY:** Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

**DATES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function. Refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0469.”

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Maribel Aponte, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics (008), 1717 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20006, (202) 266–4688 or email [maribel.aponte@va.gov](mailto:maribel.aponte@va.gov). Please refer to “OMB Control No. 2900–0469” in any correspondence.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:***Authority:* 44 U.S.C. 3501–21.*Title:* Certificate Showing Residence and Heirs of Deceased Veterans of Beneficiary VA Form 29–541.*OMB Control Number:* 2900–0469.*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved collection.*Abstract:* The form is used by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to establish entitlement to Government Life Insurance proceeds in estate cases when formal administration of the estate is not required. The information on the form is required by law, Title 38, U.S.C. 1817 and 1950. This form expired due to high volume of work and staffing changes.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published at 86 FR 26604 on May 14, 2021, pages 26604 and 26605.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or Households.*Estimated Annual Burden:* 1,039.*Estimated Average Burden per Respondent:* 30 minutes.*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 2,078.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Maribel Aponte,**

*VA PRA Clearance Officer, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2021–15130 Filed 7–15–21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320–01–P****DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS****Notice of Availability of the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement of the Department of Veterans Affairs Housing Loan Program****AGENCY:** Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** VA announces the availability of the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for the Housing Loan Program (HLP) for public review and comment. The Draft PEIS identifies, analyzes and documents the potential physical, environmental, cultural, socioeconomic and cumulative impacts of continued administration and operation of VA’s HLP. The comprehensive HLP, which is managed by VA’s Veterans Benefits

Administration (VBA), administers VA-guaranteed housing loan benefits and other housing-related benefits that assist eligible Veterans, surviving spouses, active duty personnel, Selected Reservists and National Guardsmen (collectively referred to as Veterans) in purchasing, constructing, repairing, adapting, or improving a home.

**DATES:** VA invites Federal, state, tribal and local entities; non-profit organizations; businesses; interested parties; and the general public to submit written comments on the Draft PEIS during the 45-day public comment period that ends August 30, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments may be submitted through <http://www.regulations.gov>. The Draft PEIS is available for viewing at the VA website [https://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/environmental\\_impact.asp](https://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/environmental_impact.asp). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, virtual public presentations will be available in lieu of public hearings, and the presentations will be continually accessible through the project website. Printed copies of the document may be obtained by contacting VA at [VAHLPNEPA.VBAVACO@va.gov](mailto:VAHLPNEPA.VBAVACO@va.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Elysium Drumm, Supervisory Management Analyst, Loan Guaranty Service, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420, 202-632-8862 (This is not a toll-free number.) or [VAHLPNEPA.VBAVACO@va.gov](mailto:VAHLPNEPA.VBAVACO@va.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Draft PEIS was developed pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508) and VA's NEPA regulations titled "Environmental Effects of the Department of Veterans Affairs Actions" (38 CFR 26).

The most significant element of the HLP is the provision of housing benefits that assist eligible Veterans in financing the purchase, construction, repair, or improvement of a home for their personal occupancy. See 38 U.S.C. 3701 *et seq.* VBA provides Federal assistance in the form of loans made, insured, or guaranteed by VA. VBA is also responsible for the management, marketing and disposition of real estate owned properties that VA acquires following the foreclosure of certain VA-guaranteed loans and loans held in VA's portfolio. Under HLP, VA also provides direct loans to Native American Veterans to purchase homes on trust, tribal, or communally-owned lands, and HLP extends grants for home adaptations to Veterans with service-connected disabilities through the Specially Adapted Housing program. HLP provides what can be, for some Veterans, their sole opportunity to obtain crucial housing loans and grants.

Through the PEIS, VA is using the NEPA process to evaluate the potential physical, environmental, cultural, socioeconomic and cumulative effects of HLP; to invite public comments; and to assist with and inform future agency planning and decision-making related to HLP. The PEIS evaluates HLP, which assists hundreds of thousands of Veterans each year across the United States and its territories, to ensure VA appropriately considers the human environmental elements and effects specified in 40 CFR 1508.8 (including ecological, aesthetic, historic, cultural, economic, social, or health, whether direct, indirect, or cumulative) in carrying out the various elements and aspects of the program. Environmental topics that have been addressed in the Draft PEIS include the following: Aesthetics; air quality; biological resources; cultural resources; floodplains, wetlands and coastal zones; geology and soils; hydrology and water quality; infrastructure and community

services; land use and planning; noise; and socioeconomics and environmental justice. The PEIS also identifies and analyzes potential cumulative impacts, which are the potential incremental impacts on the environment resulting from continued administration and operation of the HLP in combination with other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions from other relevant Federal and non-Federal programs.

The PEIS is atypical in that it addresses an existing program, and VA has no specific or immediate need to change its operational structure or procedures to address environmental impacts. Furthermore, the making of loan guaranties, direct loans and grants do not typically result in direct environmental impacts. Environmental impacts, if they occur, would be the result of private citizen actions (e.g., construction of a house funded by VA-guaranteed loan financing) related to a specific property. In this case, the primary environmental impacts of concern for VA would be the potential indirect impacts from homeowner actions and the potentially significant cumulative impacts of small incremental actions on local and regional resources.

**Signing Authority**

Denis McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, approved this document on March 29, 2021, and authorized the undersigned to sign and submit the document to the Office of the Federal Register for publication electronically as an official document of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Luvenia Potts,**

*Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy & Management, Office of the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2021-15014 Filed 7-15-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8320-01-P**